



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet Massachusetts 2020



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2019 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$215,000
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$137,360
Forest Legacy	\$149,990
Forest Stewardship	\$73,920
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$374,624
State Fire Assistance	\$461,184
Urban and Community Forestry	\$423,560
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$82,919
Total	\$1,918,557

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

State, private, and other non-Federal forests make up 92 percent of the 176 million acres of forests across the 20 states of the Northeast and Midwest. The U.S. Forest Service and state forestry agencies collaborate with other partners on shared stewardship goals, which also support each State Forest Action Plan. The State and Private Forestry programs promote the health, resilience, and productivity of trees and forests across all ownerships for the benefit of people and wildlife; establish and manage urban and community forests; empower private landowners with information and technical assistance to sustainably manage their forests; and protect critically important rural forests and watersheds.

Program Goals

- Conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses.
- Protect forests from threats.
- Enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

Key Issues

- Forest conservation and fragmentation.
- Local wood production and consumption.
- Exotic invasive pests and plants.
- Climate change.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2019 Accomplishments	Value
Population	6,547,629	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	5,385
Acres of Forest Land	3,010,117	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	18,363
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	2,179,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	9,341
Number of NIPF Landowners	293,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	40
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	247
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	3,200,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	220	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	156
Cities and Towns	53	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	217
Forest Based Employment	20,647	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	5,293,035
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	28,226
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,750,000		

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

Massachusetts was awarded one competitive State Fire Assistance grant to support creation of fuels breaks and safety zones within a high wildfire risk campground, develop 100 acres of prescribed burn plans, provide wildland fire and prescribed fire training to 150 firefighters, and conduct Firewise assessments for high-risk communities. Massachusetts acquired \$142,721 in property from the Federal Excess Personal Property program. The property is used to support the state's and volunteer fire departments' wildland fire programs.

Forest Health Protection

Eradication efforts to eliminate Asian longhorned beetle continued in Worcester County. Gypsy moth defoliation was significantly reduced in 2019. However, the prior outbreak resulted in 57,912 acres with oak mortality. A fall cankerworm outbreak lead to 3,502 acres of defoliation in coastal regions. The greatest feeding impact was in the oak shrub barrens in Nantucket County. White pine needle damage and red pine decline were documented as in neighboring states.

Forest Legacy

The Massachusetts Forest Legacy Program acquired three tracts in fee and two conservation easements in the multi-tract Quabbin to Wachusett (Q2W) project. These five tracts are the conclusion of 29 acquisitions of land or conservation easements over the previous five years protecting a total of 3,105 acres of important forests in a corridor between the Quabbin Reservoir and Wachusett Mountain. The \$5,712,008 in Forest Legacy Program funding was cost shared with \$2,541,603 in non-Federal funding sources.

Forest Stewardship

The Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Program reported 240 new or revised stewardship plans for 18,363 acres, of which 9,341 acres were in Important Forest Areas per Massachusetts's Strategic Forest Action Plan. Additionally, 3,867 landowners took part in educational programs. Massachusetts has an ongoing landscape scale restoration project, "Small Forest Landowner Outreach Initiative for Communities Located in the Urban-Rural Interface of the Quabbin to Cardigan Priority Landscape," designed to empower landowners of small woodlots (10 to 25 acres) to engage in coordinated forest management, combat invasive species, and provide heat to neighbors in need.

Landscape Scale Restoration

The DCR is assisting the Franklin Land Trust with grassroots tree planting in three small low-income cities in rural Massachusetts. This Landscape Scale Restoration grant will increase tree canopy in North

Adams, Greenfield, and Montague by developing volunteer networks to plant and care for trees.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association sponsored Tree Steward Training. Participants learned about improving tree stewardship in Massachusetts communities. The DCR provided sub-grants to 14 communities (\$162,100 total funding) to complete education, tree planting, inventory, and management plan projects.

Contact Information



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